



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbf>

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Select Recreation Sites Reopened on the Routt National Forest

(Steamboat Springs, COL. - October 21, 2013) – Following the recent federal government shutdown, Routt National Forest officials are informing the public that many developed recreation sites are being reopened for visitors to enjoy this fall. These include overnight campgrounds and day-use sites.

“While the season is quickly changing, we think it is important to reopen many of our developed sites that are still accessible for the public to enjoy,” said Forest Supervisor Phil Cruz. “During a typical year, most of these sites would remain open through the fall big game seasons, or until they are not accessible due to snow.”

Conditions vary by location and specific details for each ranger district are outlined below.

Hahns Peak-Bears Ears Ranger District – As weather conditions allow, the Fish Creek Falls Day-Use Area, as well as the Dry Lake and Freeman Campgrounds have been reopened. Visitors are advised, however, that four-wheel drive is required to access Dry Lake Campground. Services available at Freeman Campground include toilets, trash and water; however, only toilet and trash services are available at Dry Lake Campground and Fish Creek Falls. All other developed recreation sites will remain closed for the season, due to either snow or maintenance needs. Because the status of recreation sites and access can change at any time, please call (970) 870-2299, or stop by the District Office at 925 Weiss in Steamboat Springs for the most current information.

Parks Ranger District – Except for the Hidden Lakes Campground, which is closed for hazard tree removal, all other developed campgrounds and day-use areas on the Parks Ranger District have been reopened, as weather conditions allow. Because trash and water services are not available, campground use is free; however, campers will be required to bring water and pack out their trash. For the most current information on recreation sites and access roads, please call (970) 723-2700, or stop by the District Office at 100 Main Street in Walden.

Yampa Ranger District – With the exception of the Horseshoe Campground, all campgrounds on the Yampa Ranger District are reopened for the public to enjoy through the remaining hunting seasons, or until prohibited by weather. While toilet and trash services are available at all sites, water systems have been winterized and campers are reminded to bring their own water. For the latest information on the status of campgrounds and access, please call (970) 638-4516, or stop by the District Office at 300 Roselawn Avenue in Yampa.

In addition to snow making some roads impassable, official temporary road closures may be in effect for hazard tree removal or other forest management work that is resuming following the shutdown. Forest visitors are encouraged to contact the ranger district where they will be traveling to ensure they know the status of potential road closures and related activities.

Additional Forest information may be found at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or you can follow the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland on Twitter, **@MBRNFsTBNG**.

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